

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please **amend claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 11, and 13-15, and add claims 16-18** as follows:

1. (*Currently amended*) A camera comprising a detector for image capture, an objective lens with a field of view to image optical radiation from an object plane onto the detector for image capture, a strobe flash for illuminating the object plane, electronic pulse circuitry to pulse the strobe flash at a rate which is sufficiently quick that the illumination appears to a user of the camera to be substantially steady owing to persistence of vision, and a shutter arrangement to ~~synchronise~~ synchronize the capture of one or more images by the detector for image capture, each image being captured with at least one pulse from the strobe flash, wherein the shutter arrangement is adapted to capture images at a rate substantially below the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed.

2. (*Previously presented*) A camera as claimed in claim 1, in which the pulse circuitry is arranged to ramp up the perceived intensity of the steady illumination prior to the capture of the image, and/or to ramp down said intensity after capture of the image.

3. (Previously presented) A camera as claimed in Claim 2, in which the ramp up and/or ramp down of the perceived intensity of the steady illumination takes place over at least 0.25 second.

4. (Previously presented) A camera as claimed in Claim 2, in which the ramp up and/or ramp down of the perceived intensity of the steady illumination takes place over less than 1 second.

5. (Previously presented) A camera as claimed in claim 1, in which the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed is at least 50 Hz.

6. (Currently amended) A camera as claimed in ~~claim~~ Claim 1, in which the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed is at least 10 times higher than the image capture rate.

7. (Currently amended) A camera as claimed in ~~claim~~ Claim 1, in which the detector for image capture is an electronic detector array, the shutter arrangement comprising electronic control circuitry to ~~synchronise~~ synchronize the capture of an image by the detector array with the strobe flash.

8. (Previously presented) A camera as claimed in Claim 7, in which the camera includes an actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens in the object plane as the control circuitry captures images of different fields of view.

9. (Previously presented) A camera as claimed in Claim 8, in which the actuator scans the field of view of the objective lens continuously as the control circuitry captures images of different fields of view.

10. (Currently amended) A camera as claimed in ~~claim~~ Claim 1, in which the camera is a hand-held camera.

11. (Currently amended) A document scanning system comprising a camera, the camera comprising an electronic detector array for image capture, an objective lens with a field of view to image optical radiation from an object plane onto the electronic detector array, a strobe flash for illuminating the object plane, electronic pulse circuitry to pulse the strobe flash at a rate which is sufficiently quick that the illumination appears to a user of the camera to be substantially steady owing to persistence of vision, and a shutter arrangement comprising electronic control circuitry to ~~synchronise~~ synchronize the capture of an image by the detector array with the strobe flash, each image being captured with at least one pulse from the strobe flash, wherein the shutter arrangement is adapted to capture images at a rate substantially below the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed, the camera further including an actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens in the object plane as the control circuitry

captures images of different fields of view; the document scanning system further comprising a mount by which the camera may be positioned to image onto the electronic detector array a portion of a document in the object plane, wherein the actuator is operable to scan the field of view of the objective lens as the control circuitry captures images of different portions of the document.

**12.** (Previously presented) A document imaging system as claimed in Claim **11**, in which the system comprises a processor adapted to execute a stitching algorithm by which images captured from adjacent or overlapping fields of view can be joined into a composite image of the adjacent or overlapping fields.

**13.** (Currently amended) A method of imaging a document using a camera comprising an electronic detector array for image capture, an objective lens with a field of view to image optical radiation from an object plane onto the electronic detector array, a strobe flash for illuminating the object plane, electronic pulse circuitry to pulse the strobe flash at a rate which is sufficiently quick that the illumination appears to a user of the camera to be substantially steady owing to persistence of vision, and a shutter arrangement comprising electronic control circuitry to ~~synchronise~~ synchronize the capture of an image by the detector

array with the strobe flash, each image being captured with at least one pulse from the strobe flash, wherein the shutter arrangement is adapted to capture images at a rate substantially below the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed, the camera further including an actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens in the object plane as the control circuitry captures images of different fields of view[[];]], wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) aiming the camera at a document in the object plane so that a portion of the document falls within the field of view; and

(b) using the actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens as the control circuitry captures images of different portions of the document.

**14.** (Currently amended) A method of scanning a document using a document scanning system, the document scanning system comprising a camera, the camera comprising an electronic detector array for image capture, an objective lens with a field of view to image optical radiation from an object plane onto the electronic detector array, a strobe flash for illuminating the object plane, electronic pulse circuitry to pulse the strobe flash at a rate which is sufficiently quick that the illumination appears to a user of the camera to be substantially steady owing to persistence of vision, and a shutter arrangement comprising electronic control

circuitry to ~~synchronise~~ synchronize the capture of an image by the detector array with the strobe flash, each image being captured with at least one pulse from the strobe flash, wherein the shutter arrangement is adapted to capture images at a rate substantially below the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed, the camera further including an actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens in the object plane as the control circuitry captures images of different fields of view; the document scanning system further comprising a mount by which the camera may be positioned to image onto the electronic detector array a portion of a document in the object plane, wherein the actuator is operable to scan the field of view of the objective lens as the control circuitry captures images of different portions of the document, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) mounting the camera to image onto the detector ~~a portion~~ the segment of ~~[[a]]~~ the document in the object plane; and

(b) using the actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens as the control circuitry captures images of different portions of the document.

**15.** (Currently amended) A method of scanning a document as claimed in Claim **14**, wherein the document scanning system further comprises a processor adapted to execute a stitching algorithm by which images captured from adjacent or overlapping fields of view

can be joined into a composite image of the adjacent or overlapping fields, in which the method comprises after step b) the step of:

(c) joining images captured from adjacent or overlapping fields of view into a composite image of the document.

**16.** (New) A camera comprising a detector for image capture, an objective lens with a field of view to image optical radiation from an object plane onto the detector for image capture, a strobe flash for illuminating the object plane, electronic pulse circuitry to pulse the strobe flash at a rate of at least 16 times/second, and a shutter arrangement to synchronize the capture of one or more images by the detector for image capture, each image being captured with at least one pulse from the strobe flash, wherein the shutter arrangement is adapted to capture images at a rate substantially below the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed.

**17.** (New) A document scanning system comprising a camera, the camera comprising an electronic detector array for image capture, an objective lens with a field of view to image optical radiation from an object plane onto the electronic detector array, a strobe flash for illuminating the object plane, electronic pulse circuitry to pulse the strobe flash at a rate of at least 16

times/second, and a shutter arrangement comprising electronic control circuitry to synchronize the capture of an image by the detector array with the strobe flash, each image being captured with at least one pulse from the strobe flash, wherein the shutter arrangement is adapted to capture images at a rate substantially below the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed, the camera further including an actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens in the object plane as the control circuitry captures images of different fields of view; the document scanning system further comprising a mount by which the camera may be positioned to image onto the electronic detector array a portion of a document in the object plane, wherein the actuator is operable to scan the field of view of the objective lens as the control circuitry captures images of different portions of the document.

**18.** (New) A method of imaging a document using a camera comprising an electronic detector array for image capture, an objective lens with a field of view to image optical radiation from an object plane onto the electronic detector array, a strobe flash for illuminating the object plane, electronic pulse circuitry to pulse the strobe flash at a rate of at least 16 times/second, and a shutter arrangement comprising electronic control circuitry to synchronize the capture of an image by the



detector array with the strobe flash, each image being captured with at least one pulse from the strobe flash, wherein the shutter arrangement is adapted to capture images at a rate substantially below the rate at which the strobe flash is pulsed, the camera further including an actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens in the object plane as the control circuitry captures images of different fields of view, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

(a) aiming the camera at a document in the object plane so that a portion of the document falls within the field of view; and

(b) using the actuator to scan the field of view of the objective lens as the control circuitry captures images of different portions of the document.